

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **cancel** claims 1-13 as follows:

Please **add** new claims 14-27 as follows:

14. (NEW) An *in vitro* method for producing dendritic Langerhans type cells, said method comprising:

- a. culturing cells selected from the group consisting of peripheral blood monocytes and bone marrow cells in a medium containing platelets obtained from the same species or phylogenetically close species; and
- b. incubating the culture at about 30 to about 40°C for a period sufficient to enable formation of mature dendritic Langerhans type cells,

wherein the medium omits an exogenous cytokine.

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- 15. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the exogenous cytokine is granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor or interleukin-4.
- 16. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the medium comprises RPMI-1640.
- 17. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the cells are cultured for a period of about 2 to about 8 days.
- 18. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the medium further comprises fetal calf serum.
- 19. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the medium contains at least about 2% fetal calf serum.
- 20. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the fetal calf serum is about 10%.
- 21. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein human platelets are added to the medium to develop dendritic Langerhans type cells.

22. (NEW) The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein rat platelets are added to the medium containing mice blood cells to develop dendritic Langerhans type cells.
23. (NEW) A method for producing dendritic Langerhans type cells *in vitro* comprising:
- a. preparing peripheral blood monocytes and/or bone marrow cells; and
 - b. culturing the peripheral blood monocytes or the bone marrow cells with platelets of the same species or phylogenetically close species in a culture medium lacking an exogenous cytokine such that dendritic Langerhans type cells are produced.
- AI 24. (NEW) The method of claim 23 further comprising analyzing the morphology of human dendritic Langerhans type cells produced.
25. (NEW) The method of claim 23 further comprising analyzing the dendritic Langerhans type cells produced by flow cytometry.
26. (NEW) The method of claim 23 wherein the peripheral blood monocytes, the platelets, and the dendritic Langerhans type cells produced are human.
27. (NEW) The method of claim 23 wherein the bone marrow cells are mouse bone marrow cells, the platelets are rat platelets, and the dendritic Langerhans type cells produced are mouse dendritic Langerhans type cells.
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